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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/474,664	12/29/1999	EDWARD BALASSANIAN	294518007US	2537

25096 7590 09/23/2002

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EXAMINER

PEYTON, TAMMARA R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2182

DATE MAILED: 09/23/2002

8

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Handwritten signature/initials

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/474,664

Applicant(s)

BALASSANIAN, EDWARD

Examiner

Tammara R Peyton

Art Unit

2182

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 December 1999.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-34 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-34 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 5,7.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) do not apply to the examination of this application as the application being examined was not (1) filed on or after November 29, 2000, or (2) voluntarily published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b). Therefore, this application is examined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

1. Claims 1-4, 6, 7, 10, 14, 22, 29, and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by *Feiken et al.*, (US 5,870,479).

2. As per claims 1, 3, 6, 10, 22, 29, and 30, *Feiken* teaches a method in a computer system for processing packets of a message, the method comprising:

- receiving a packet of the message (col. 3, line 66);
- identifying a component an identifier of state information associated with the message; (col. 3, line 67-col. 4, lines 1-5)

- retrieving state information associated with the received identifier; and
- providing the retrieved state information and the received packet to the identified component for processing of the received packet. (Abstract, col. 2, lines 37-col. 3, lines 1-20, col. 5, lines 37-col. 7, lines 2)

3. As per claims 2, 7, and 23, *Feiken* inherently teaches including requesting that the identified component provide an identifier of state information.

4. As per claim 4, *Feiken* inherently teaches wherein the receiving of the identifier is in response to invoking a routine of the component.

5. As per claim 14, *Feiken* teaches wherein multiple messages share the same state information.

6. As per claim 24, *Feiken* teaches including locating state information based on information in a header.

7. Claims 1-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by *Hluchyj et al.*, (US 5,425,029).

8. As per claims 1, 3, 6, 10, 22, 29, and 30, *Hluchyj* teaches a method in a computer system for processing packets of a message, the method comprising:

- receiving a packet of the message;

- identifying a component an identifier of state information associated with the message;
- retrieving state information associated with the received identifier; and
- providing the retrieved state information and the received packet to the identified component for processing of the received packet. (Abstract, col. 2, lines 41-col.8)

9. As per claims 2, 7, and 23, *Hluchyj* inherently teaches including requesting that the identified component provide an identifier of state information.

10. As per claims 4, 5, 9, and 11, *Hluchyj* inherently teaches wherein the receiving of the identifier is in response to invoking a routine of the component, and wherein the component is a protocol with an edge.

11. As per claim 8, *Hluchyj* teaches wherein the receiving of the data type includes requesting the data type from a component that previously processed the packet.

12. As per claims 12 and 13, *Hluchyj* inherently teaches wherein the message handler function updates the state information.

13. As per claims 14 and 15, *Hluchyj* teaches wherein multiple messages share the same state information.

14. As per claims 16 and 28, *Hluchyj* teaches wherein the message handler function is passed state information.
15. As per claim 17, *Hluchyj* teaches wherein the state information is stored in a table.
16. As per claim 18, *Hluchyj* teaches wherein the message handler converts data of a packet.
17. As per claim 24, *Hluchyj* teaches including locating state information based on information in a header.
18. As per claim 25, *Hluchyj* teaches wherein analyzing includes identifying a state indicator/locating routine and passing the message.
19. As per claim 26, *Hluchyj* inherently teaches wherein the invoking step is under control of a single thread of execution.
20. As per claim 27, *Hluchyj* teaches wherein analyzing includes identifying multiple sequences of message handlers.
21. As per claims 19-21, 31 and 33, *Hluchyj* teaches a computer readable medium containing a data structure that includes:

a plurality of item fields, each item field identifying a conversion routine for processing a message in sequence; and

a type field specifying that each item field contains the identifier of a conversion routine.

22. As per claim 32, *Hluchyj* inherently teaches wherein an item field identifies a protocol with an edge.

23. As per claim 33, *Hluchyj* inherently teaches wherein the data structure is a URL.

24. Claims 19-21, 31, and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by *Van Loo, Jr. et al.*, (US 5,568,478).

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

25. As per claims 19-21,31, and 33, *Van Loo* teaches a computer-readable medium containing a data structure comprising a sequence of path entries, each path entry having a reference to state information for a message and a reference to a message handler for processing a message wherein the message handlers are to be invoked in the order of the sequence. (Abstract, col. 3, lines 10-col. 4, lines 1-40, Figs.1-3)

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tammara Peyton whose telephone number is (703) 306-5508. The examiner can normally be reached between 6:30 - 4:00 from Monday to Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey A. Gaffin, can be reached on (703) 308-3301. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 305-3718.

Any inquiry of a general nature of relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Mailed responses to this action should be sent to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231. Faxes for Official/formal communications intended

for entry should be sent to: (703) 746-7238, After Final (703) 746-7239

or, for informal or draft communications, to:

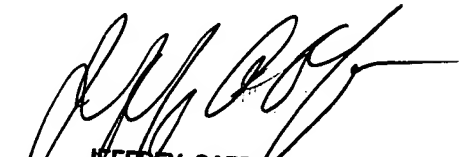
(703) 746-7240 (please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT").

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to:

Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Fourth Floor (Receptionist).

Tammara Peyton

September 18, 2002


JEFFREY GAFFIN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100